

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are now pending in the application. Claims 11 and 12 are added. Claims 1 and 8 are amended. Support for the amendments and additions may be found in the originally filed specification at paragraph 42. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3, 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Jamalabad et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,574,633). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Jamalabad et al. is generally directed toward a method for dynamically grouping limited range physical entities in a topological space. In particular, the Examiner relies on Jamalabad to teach electing coordinators from spatially defined sets of mobile entities, using the coordinators to compute costs of selectively subdividing and merging the sets, using the costs to generate a new partitioning scheme, and communicating that scheme to the mobile entities. However, Jamalabad et al. does not teach that mobile entities use their respective vision domains and a most current partitioning scheme to effect a state disseminating protocol designed to ensure that state messages originating from each mobile entity reach all other interested mobile entities, each vision domain corresponding to a predefined area of interest.

Applicant's claimed invention is generally directed toward grouping mobile entities. In particular, Applicants' claimed invention is directed toward mobile entities use their respective vision domains and a most current partitioning scheme to effect a

state disseminating protocol designed to ensure that state messages originating from each mobile entity reach all other interested mobile entities, each vision domain corresponding to a predefined area of interest. For example, independent claims 1 and 8 each recite, "mobile entities use their respective vision domains and a most current partitioning scheme to effect a state disseminating protocol designed to ensure that state messages originating from each mobile entity reach all other interested mobile entities, each vision domain corresponding to a predefined area of interest." Support for the amendment can be found in paragraph 42 of Applicants' originally filed specification. Thus, Jamalabad et al. does not teach all of the elements of independent claims 1 and 8.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), along with rejection on these grounds of all claims dependent therefrom.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 4-6 and 9-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jamalabad et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,574,633) in view of Weisshaar et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,757,262). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

For discussion of Jamalabad et al. Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to remarks detailed above with respect to rejection under 35 U.S.C § 102(e).

Weisshaar et al. is generally directed toward a service framework supporting remote service discovery and connection. In particular, the Examiner relies on Weisshaar et al. to teach multicasting at column 17, line 51. However, Jamalabad et al. and Weisshaar et al. do not teach, suggest, or motivate that mobile entities use their

respective vision domains and a most current partitioning scheme to effect a state disseminating protocol designed to ensure that state messages originating from each mobile entity reach all other interested mobile entities, each vision domain corresponding to a predefined area of interest.

Applicant's claimed invention is generally directed toward grouping mobile entities. In particular, Applicants' claimed invention is directed toward mobile entities use their respective vision domains and a most current partitioning scheme to effect a state disseminating protocol designed to ensure that state messages originating from each mobile entity reach all other interested mobile entities, each vision domain corresponding to a predefined area of interest. For example, independent claims 1 and 8 each recite, "mobile entities use their respective vision domains and a most current partitioning scheme to effect a state disseminating protocol designed to ensure that state messages originating from each mobile entity reach all other interested mobile entities, each vision domain corresponding to a predefined area of interest." Support for the amendment can be found in paragraph 42 of Applicants' originally filed specification. Thus, Jamalabad et al. and Weisshaar et al. do not teach, suggest, or motivate all of the elements of independent claims 1 and 8. These differences are significant.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 2, 4-6 and 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on their dependence from allowable base claims.

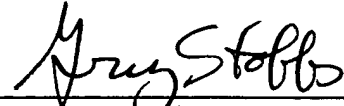
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests

that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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